

# 2014 IN CULTURE: A LOOK BACK AT THE HIGHLIGHTS

FROM SOLANGE'S ELEVATOR FIGHT TO SAYING GOODBYE TO COLBERT. PAGES 12-13

# metro<sup>®</sup>

**BOSTON** Monday, December 29, 2014 [www.metro.us](http://www.metro.us) | t: MetroBOS | f: MetroBoston



## Boston survives

**A city in color.** From Marty Walsh's swearing-in to a defiant Marathon and Tom Menino's passing, Metro looks back at Boston's year of regeneration. PAGES 02-06



Thousands of runners returned for the 118th Boston Marathon. / NICOLAI SZARNECKI, METRO

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# Metro looks back on 2014 in shock and fondness

The Hub has always been a hot bed of activity when it comes to shocking news stories and monumental events, and 2014 has been no exception. Here is a look at Metro's top 10 stories of the year.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU  
morgan.rousseau@metro.us



Firefighters respond to a nine-alarm fire on Beacon Street in the Back Bay. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

# 1

NEWS

Top 3

## The best of Metro.us

1 Can you guess 2014's most Googled fashion designer?

2 Recipe: Make coffee-glazed walnuts for your New Years party

3 The best-selling concerts of 2014



On the go

Want to read Metro on your mobile device? Get the app! All you have to do is search for Metro US in the App Store or Google Play to get all the latest in news, sports, lifestyle and entertainment for free.

## Mayor Walsh takes office

For the first time in two decades, Bostonians in January welcomed a new mayor. Marty Walsh, 46, won a close November election with about 51 percent of the vote. He beat former City Councilor John Connolly who attended his Jan. 6 swearing-in. Walsh replaced long-time Mayor, Thomas Menino, who had led the city since 1993.



NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

## Expelled: Henriquez loses seat in historic House vote

The Massachusetts House of Representatives voted in February 146-5 to expel Dorchester Rep. Carlos Henriquez, who in January was convicted of beating a woman after she refused to have sex with him. It marked the first time in 98 years that a House member was expelled.



TED FITZGERALD

## Firefighters killed in Back Bay blaze

Two veteran Boston firefighters, one a father of three and the other a Marine combat veteran, died when they became trapped by a massive fire that tore through a Back Bay brownstone in March. The two were Lt. Edward J. Walsh, 43, of Engine 33 and Firefighter Michael R. Kennedy, 33, of Ladder 15.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2



Hundreds participate in a flag raising ceremony at the Boston Marathon finish line marking the one-year anniversary of the Boston Marathon bombings. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

## Boston Marathon Anniversary

About 2,500 invited guests attended a Boston Remembers ceremony at the Hynes Convention Center, just blocks from the Boston Marathon finish line, where a pair of homemade pressure-cooker bombs detonated on April 15, 2013.

The explosions killed three - Martin Richard, 8, Krystle Campbell, 29, and Lu Lingzi, 23 - and injured 264 others. Sixteen people lost limbs.

During a stirring speech, Vice President Joe Biden called the survivors an inspi-

ration to Americans who are suffering hardships.

"You are living proof that America can never, never, never be defeated. You are the proof of that assertion. So much has been taken from you, but you've never given up," Biden said.

## Boston Marathon 2014

Under perfect skies, amid the cheers and smiles of roughly 1 million people, Boston took back its marathon on April 21, 2014. Marathon Monday went off without a hitch. Meb Keflezighi brought home the men's gold, and Rita Jeptoo came in first in the women's race.



Meb Keflezighi of San Diego took first place in the men's race. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO



Market Basket employees and supporters rally for Market Basket to reinstate fired CEO Arthur T. Demoulas.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

## Market Basket

Popular Massachusetts grocery chain Market Basket was hot with employee and customer outrage over the summer when beloved CEO Arthur T. Demoulas was ousted by family members. Hundreds of workers walked off the job, and thousands of Demoulas supporters demonstrated. In August, Demoulas agreed to buy the company for \$1.5 billion, ending more than two months of unrest.

## Wynn Casino coming to Everett

In September, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission chose Wynn Resorts' Everett casino proposal over Mohegan Sun's plans for Suffolk Downs in Revere. Wynn wants to redevelop some 26 acres of former industrial land along the Mystic River. Their proposal includes environmental cleanup and river dredging.

## Tom Menino dies

Thomas Menino, a self-described "lunch bucket guy" who rose from Hyde Park to dominate Boston and Massachusetts politics as the capital city's mayor for 20 years, passed away on Oct. 30 after a battle with cancer. He was 71.

Elected in 1993 after four months as acting mayor, Menino was known as a tireless worker and a chief executive focused on delivering neighborhood services.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

## Election

Just two days after Menino was laid to rest, Boston voters elected Republican Charlie Baker as governor over Democrat Martha Coakley, by about 40,000 votes - 48.4 percent to 46.6 percent. Voters also defeated Question 2 to expand the bottle bill to include a 5-cent deposit on water, juices and sports drinks by 73 percent to 27 percent. Voters rejected Question 3 to repeal the state's casino gambling law, 60 percent to 40 percent. They approved Question 1 to repeal the law that ties the gas tax to the consumer price index 52 percent to 48 percent, and also passed Question 4, requiring businesses to offer employees paid sick time.



NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO



Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev / JANE FLAVELL COLLINS

## Tsarnaev tension

Throughout the course of the year, readers following the case of the Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev have absorbed the back and forth between federal prosecutors and the accused terrorist's defense team. His attorneys have requested a change of venue several

times - the latest request was filed on Dec. 21 - citing media saturation. On Dec. 18, for the first time in 17 months, the 21-year-old suspect appeared in federal court. Now, after the holidays, he is due to stand trial. Jury selection begins on January 5. Stay with Metro for coverage.

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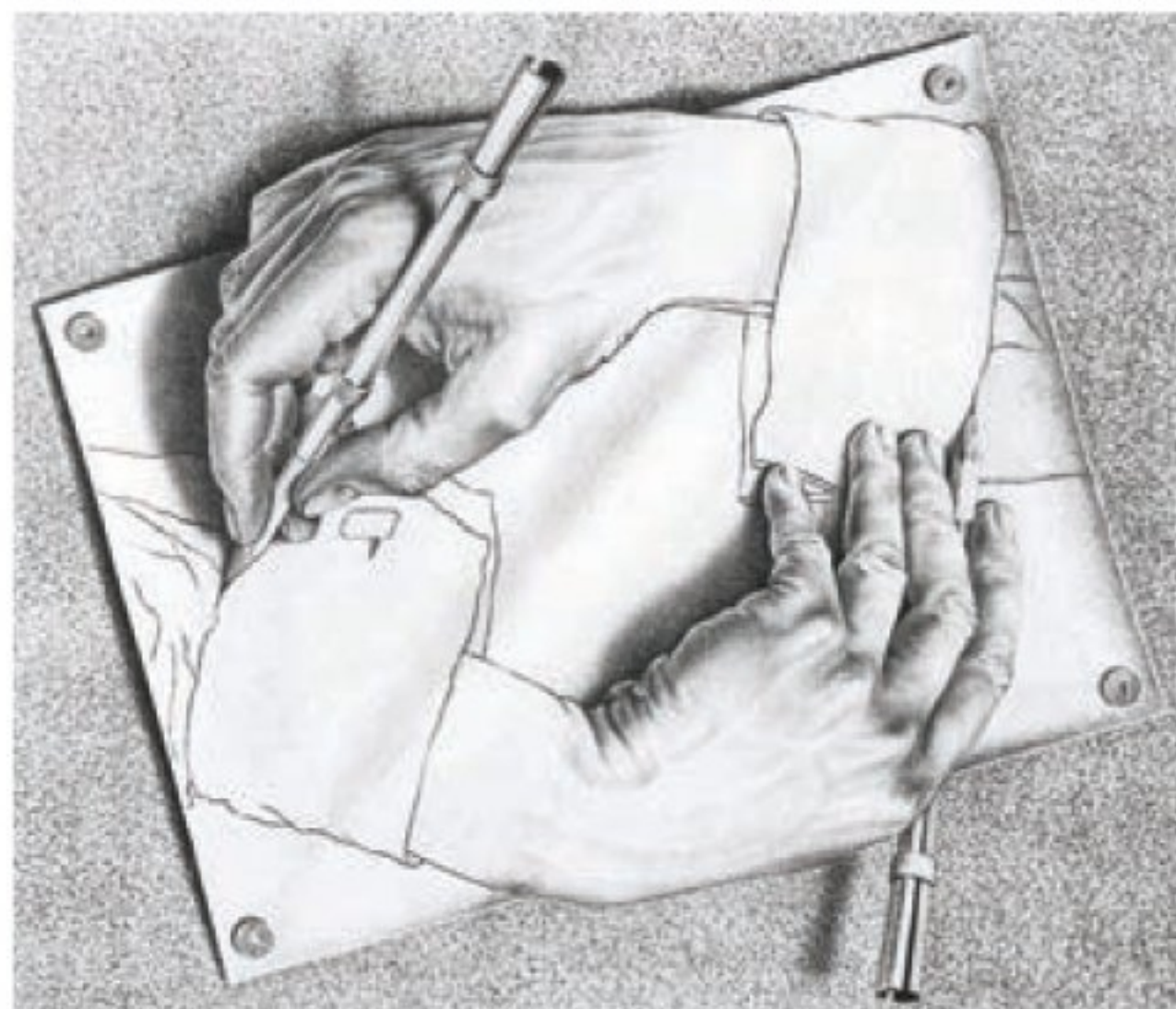


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**IMAGES:**

**LEFT:** M.C. Escher, *Waterfall*, 1961, lithograph. **TOP RIGHT:** M.C. Escher, *Drawing Hands*, 1948, lithograph. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** M.C. Escher, *Air*, 1952, woodcut. All images © 2014 The M.C. Escher Company-The Netherlands. All rights reserved. [www.mcescher.com](http://www.mcescher.com)

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## 'It doesn't sound normal but you build up a tolerance'

**The plunge.** The L Street Brownies explain themselves

George LoCascio can't get enough of the frigid Atlantic.

While hundreds typically turn out at South Boston's Curley Community Center to shake off their New Year's Day hangovers each year with a cold and brazen swim in the harbor, LoCascio actually likes it. He tries to do it every day. Yes, every day.

"The coldest the water's been when I'm in it was 28," said the 63-year-old, semi-retired grandfather of two who grew up in Southie's D Street projects. "Saltwater doesn't start icing up until about 25."

He uses a fishing pole to cast a thermometer to take the temperature of the water before he makes the plunge. He usually swims about 30 to 40 yards and then comes back in and heads straight for the community center steam room.

"I've been doing this for the last 15 years and I haven't been sick in 15 years," he said. "I think the body gets immune."

Last year, about 600 polar bears took the New Year's swim in the ocean, an event that's organized by the center, and



George LoCascio swims at the Curley Community Center every day. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

### Quoted

**"You do feel refreshed. The best thing is getting out of the cold water and getting in the hot shower."** LoCascio

benefits local charities. LoCascio, who is part of the group that styles itself as the "L Street Brownies" – people who swim year round in the harbor – is not alone.

"It doesn't sound normal but you build up a tolerance," said Jack Dever, a 75-year-old re-

tired school teacher who grew up in South Boston and now lives in Hull. "The secret is you don't stay in too long."

Dever usually does about 10 strokes, then gets out. He was swimming in the bay until October, when a problem with his ear forced him to stop.

He claims the L Street Brownies were the first group in the country to take chilly dips on a regular basis.

"It started in 1901. Others have followed us," he said.

DANNY McDONALD  
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A young scavenger extracts plastic from tons of trash in the Anlong Pi on June 11 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



Debris from Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 smolders in a field July 17 in Grabovo, Ukraine.



A competitor falls into muddy water during Tough Mudder at Phillip Island Grand Prix on March 22 in Australia.

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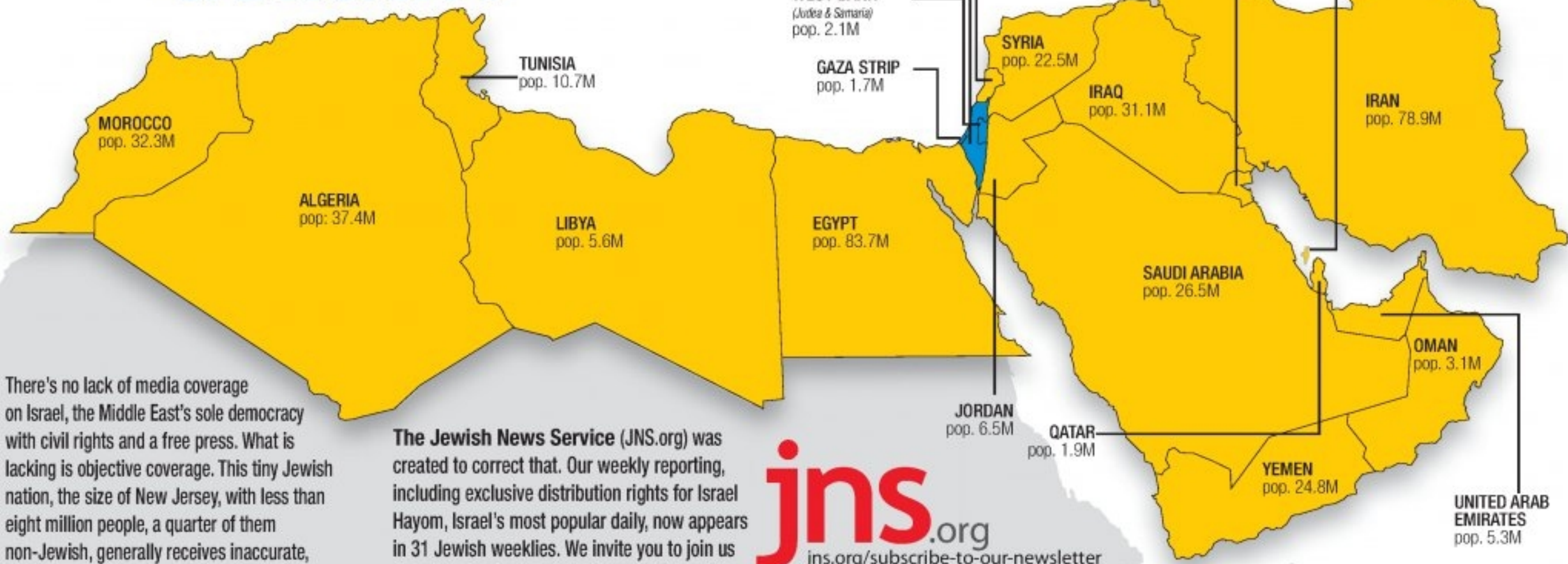
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# who is David? who is Goliath?



There's no lack of media coverage on Israel, the Middle East's sole democracy with civil rights and a free press. What is lacking is objective coverage. This tiny Jewish nation, the size of New Jersey, with less than eight million people, a quarter of them non-Jewish, generally receives inaccurate, harsh, even hostile coverage from the world's press.

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# Top pop culture moments of 2014

# 2

CULTURE

Premiere

**'Fifty Shades of Grey' coming to Berlin film festival**

In a move that makes Germany's prestigious Berlinale film festival seem kind of desperate, "Fifty Shades of Grey" will celebrate its international premiere there in February. The press release even goes so far as to call the roles of Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan) and Anastasia Steele (Dakota Johnson) "iconic." Guys, come on. This is soft-core S&M porn originally written as fan fiction for "Twilight," an already pretty terrible book series. Iconic doesn't really factor into it.

NED EHRBAR

# 1

**Trending.** Take a look back at the year's biggest celeb stories.



NED EHRBAR  
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## #BreaktheInternet

Hashtag or no hashtag, I just checked and the Internet remains safely unbroken. But that doesn't mean this image of Kim Kardashian's physics-defying derriere hasn't broken something deep inside of me. Could be my spirit, could be my brain, tough to say. But while Ms. Kardashian may not have broken the Internet, she did successfully sear this image into our collective cultural brain. So, good job? But do you think

the designer of that dress was saddened that we all assumed it was a trash bag at first?



PAPER MAGAZINE



GETTY IMAGES

## Justin Bieber's mug shot

After starting off 2014 with this mug shot after he was arrested for drag racing, driving under the influence and whiningly resisting arrest, Justin Bieber managed to make it out of 2014 unscathed — well, pretty much. He's still juggling multiple pending court cases for a DUI, assaulting a driver and egging his neighbor's house.



TWITTER / @THEELLENSHOW

## The ultimate Oscar selfie

Speaking of breaking the Internet, that's what Academy Awards host Ellen DeGeneres claimed she was trying to do with her star-studded selfie taken during the telecast — or at least she was trying to break Twitter. And DeGeneres's efforts were much more successful

than Kardashian's. The photo of DeGeneres along with Jennifer Lawrence, Channing Tatum, Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts, Bradley Cooper, Kevin Spacey, Brad Pitt, Lupita Nyong'o, the brother of Lupita Nyong'o and part of Jared Leto becoming the most retweeted photo ever.

## Elevator fight

Grainy surveillance footage from May 5, 2014 was seen 'round the world. On their way out of a Met Gala after-party, Solange Knowles lunges past sister Beyoncé to unleash hell on brother-in-law Jay Z — and TMZ got its hands on the footage. Sadly, much like the rumors of marital strife that swirled around Beyoncé and Jay Z all summer, this slap-fight may have been faked solely to boost ticket sales for their tour.



GETTY IMAGES

## 'Too Many Cooks'

Finally recovered from the absurd, sinister, TV-inspired trip that was "Too Many Cooks"? Time to revisit it. There's probably a detail or two you missed. For instance, can you spot the first appearance of machete-wielding madman Bill? The blend of '80s TV nostalgia, absurdism and blood-curdling terror became a pop culture stew to be savored again and again.



## I'm not famous anymore/#IamSorry

Professionally, 2014 was a mixed bag for Shia LaBeouf. While his full-frontal work in Lars Von Trier's two-part "Nymphomaniac" didn't generate much excitement, his WWII tank drama "Fury" was a hit. But all that was easily overshadowed by what the real LaBeouf was doing in Berlin, LA and New York. Whether he was wearing a paper bag, having staring contests with strangers or getting arrested outside Broadway musicals, LaBeouf was tough to ignore.

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# The year in TV

With so many outlets for original content, it's easy to hit TV overload. In that spirit, we've collected a group of shows to honor for what we liked about them, rather than a "best of" list. **LISA WEIDENFELD AND LAKSHMI GANDHI**

## Show we'll miss the most

### 'The Colbert Report'

Nation, it's hard to believe we said goodbye to "Stephen Colbert," the jingoistic, right-wing host of "The Colbert Report." Since 2005, the show's fans have watched Colbert lampoon countless politicians and cable news pundits, profile many of those same politicians in his "Better Know A District" segment and lavish Bill O'Reilly with almost weekly praise. As Colbert leaves "Colbert" behind, it'll be interesting to see how fans adjust to his non-satirical persona once his CBS late-night show debuts in 2015.



SCOTT GRIES, PICTUREGROUP

## Gone too soon

### 'Selfie'

It's always disappointing when a new show is cancelled just as it's hitting its stride. 2014's saddest cancellation casualty was surely the John Cho/Karen Gillan sitcom "Selfie." A modern-day twist on George Bernard Shaw's ugly duckling play "Pygmalion," the show followed a self-centered marketing pro (Gillan) who sees her social media fan base as her ticket to fame. Cho portrays the marketing exec trying to transform her into someone less self-absorbed. Fans did get one early holiday gift from ABC — the remaining episodes are on Hulu.



NICOLE WILDER, ABC

## Best talk show guest

### Emma Stone, 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon'

We decided not to honor best talk show this year, because there was one main thing that happened on a talk show this year that we watched repeatedly: Emma Stone tearing the roof off with her lip sync renditions of Blues Traveler's "Hook" and DJ Khaled's "All I Do Is Win." While Fallon's other guests acquit themselves well in the competition, we think it's Stone who inspired Fallon to create a spinoff lip sync show.



GETTY IMAGES

## Best new show

### 'Transparent'

Amazon has been creating original programming for some time, but they hit the jackpot with "Transparent," from former "Six Feet Under" writer Jill Soloway. It's a sitcom, in that it's a half hour long and funny, but it can also be heartbreaking. The show tells the story of Maura, or, as her family knows her, Mort, who comes out as a transgender woman late in life. Jeffrey Tambor is great in the lead, and Amy Landecker, Jay Duplass and Gaby Hoffmann are compelling as Maura's kids, who are working through their own issues.



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12/30 Okemo\*

### JANUARY

1/3 Stowe  
1/4 Killington  
1/7 Sunday River\*  
1/10 Jay Peak  
1/11 Cannon  
1/16-19 Sugarloaf  
1/17 Sunday River  
1/18 Killington  
1/19 Loon\*  
1/23-25 Sunday River  
1/24 Jay Peak  
1/25 Sugarbush  
1/30 Sunday River\*  
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1/31 Stowe

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2/4 Cannon\*  
2/7 Jay Peak

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2/21 Jay Peak  
2/22 Killington  
2/25 Wildcat\*  
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**Spotlight**

**Stand out from the crowd**

As they are revising, Caddeau urges students to spotlight their uniqueness. She had one student who neglected to mention her interest in tech. "Most admissions committees don't see women on computer science teams," she says.



# When your dream school says 'maybe'

## Applications. Learn how to cope with a deferral.

December has been a roller coaster ride of emotions for many high school seniors — as those who applied for early decision received the first admission letters of the season.

It's easy to know what to feel and say when receiving an acceptance or rejection letter, knowing what to do when you get a deferral is much more complicated, as applicants are essentially told "maybe, one day," by their top-choice schools.

"The first thing I tell students that are deferred is try not to take it personally," says Meg Caddeau, an admissions counselor with

the educational consulting firm IvyWise. "They have to step back and look at the numbers. Students who are deferred or rejected are in very good company."

Caddeau offers these suggestions for students trying to figure out their next steps.

## Follow directions

"Each school will have a letter with pretty detailed instructions," Caddeau notes. "Some colleges will ask students to update the admissions committee, and sometimes students will have new information to add. However, if they don't say that, I wouldn't go back and add anything."

## Show some

## personality

If you are asked to send a letter updating the admissions committee on your progress, treat it like another opportunity to shine. "I had one student who really infused humor into her letter," Caddeau recalls. "She wrote something like, 'As you suggested, I wanted to update you on my progress. While I haven't found a cure for cancer yet, I was voted most likely to attend Hogwarts by my class.'"

## Learn from your mistakes

Throughout her time advising applicants, Caddeau says that sometimes it is clear why a student didn't make the cut. "We see that they didn't present themselves

## Look around

## Explore your options

Most important of all, students should remember that there are plenty of fish in the sea when it comes to colleges and universities and that most students eventually do find the right fit. "Life is funny that way," says Caddeau. "You might not realize it, but this is a long journey."



Deferred from your top choice? Here's how to proceed. / WAVEBREAK MEDIA

as well as they could have," she notes. "They had boring essays or they were applying to schools out of their reach."

In these cases, some self-reflection and application revisions are in order.

Caddeau urges students to take advantage of the ability to revise their common applications.



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## Horoscope

**♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20.**  
Take the word "failure" out of your vocabulary. Focus on what you want, take charge, reach your destination and ring in the new year on a high note.

**♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18.**  
Include loved ones in your plans. Someone will use emotional blackmail to get you to do something. Say what's on your mind.

**♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20.**  
Difficulties while traveling will prove stressful. Confiding in a close friend will help you find a solution to a relationship problem. Remain calm and don't fight the inevitable.

**♈ Aries | March 21-April 20.**  
You are on the right path, so don't let criticism or disparaging comments upset you. Your success will be enough to silence your critics and give you the edge you need.

**♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21.**  
Personal and business associates will be impressed with your knowledge and charisma. Beneficial changes lie ahead. A new partnership looks promising. End your day with a little relaxation or romance.

**♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20.**  
You will receive advice from an elderly friend or relative. A partnership needs adjustment if you want to strengthen your bond before the end of the year.

**♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22.**  
A lot of issues can be resolved. Let your thoughts be known, and don't hesitate to make a move. People will gravitate to you once your intentions are clear.

**♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.**  
You are dynamic and fun-loving, and you will attract favorable attention if you attend an event. Someone you meet will play an important role in your plans for the coming year.

**♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22.**  
Family members will be hard to deal with. This is a great time to get together with friends or colleagues. Socialize and have some fun, and mix business with pleasure to get ahead.

**♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22.**  
Stimulate your senses. Try something you have been dreaming about or visit someplace that intrigues you. The new perspective will be enlightening.

**♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.**  
Let everyone know what you have to offer. Your co-workers will be impressed with your suggestions to improve the workplace.

**♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21.** It's a good time to make travel arrangements. The destination is not as important as who you will be spending time with. Strengthen a central relationship. **EUGENIA LAST**

## Best of 2014

*Through the holidays, Metro takes a look at the issues important to letter writers in 2014. Whether it was gun violence, domestic violence or world conflicts (or cyclists!) Metro readers had a lot to say. Here are some excerpts:*

## Cyclists

Who are all the bikers who choose to ride against traffic? It's so dangerous for both parties: With a bike going 10 miles per hour and a vehicle going 30-40 miles per hour head-

ing toward one another, that doesn't leave time to prevent a head-on collision.  
**MIKE DISCOLO (MAY 21)**

Have these people saying they prefer to ride a bike against the traffic ever heard of a great invention called a rearview mirror? They make them for bicycles, too. You can ride with the traffic AND see what's behind you!  
**SUZANNE PALAU (MAY 21)**

Eighty percent of bike-car collisions occur at intersections. Motorists look only in the direction of oncoming traffic before

bolting out. If you bike against traffic flow, you are totally invisible to motorists. According to the League of American Bicyclists, 14 percent of bike-car crashes involve wrong-way bicycling, while only 3 percent involve motorists striking a bicyclist from behind.  
**BOB STERNER (MAY 22)**

People who complain about cyclists are not trying to compare pedestrians' behavior with that of cyclists. They are complaining about cyclists' reckless endangerment of both pedestrians and drivers. Cyclists should take responsibility for

their own behavior.  
**ELIZABETH HENDERSON (SEPT. 30)**

Yet not one of these people ever says the police should crack down on lawless pedestrians. Could it be that these two-faced hypocrites are themselves lawless pedestrians with a severe conflict of interest?  
**JACK DICKENSON (NOV. 4)**

letters@metro.us



Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

## Sudoku: Easy and hard

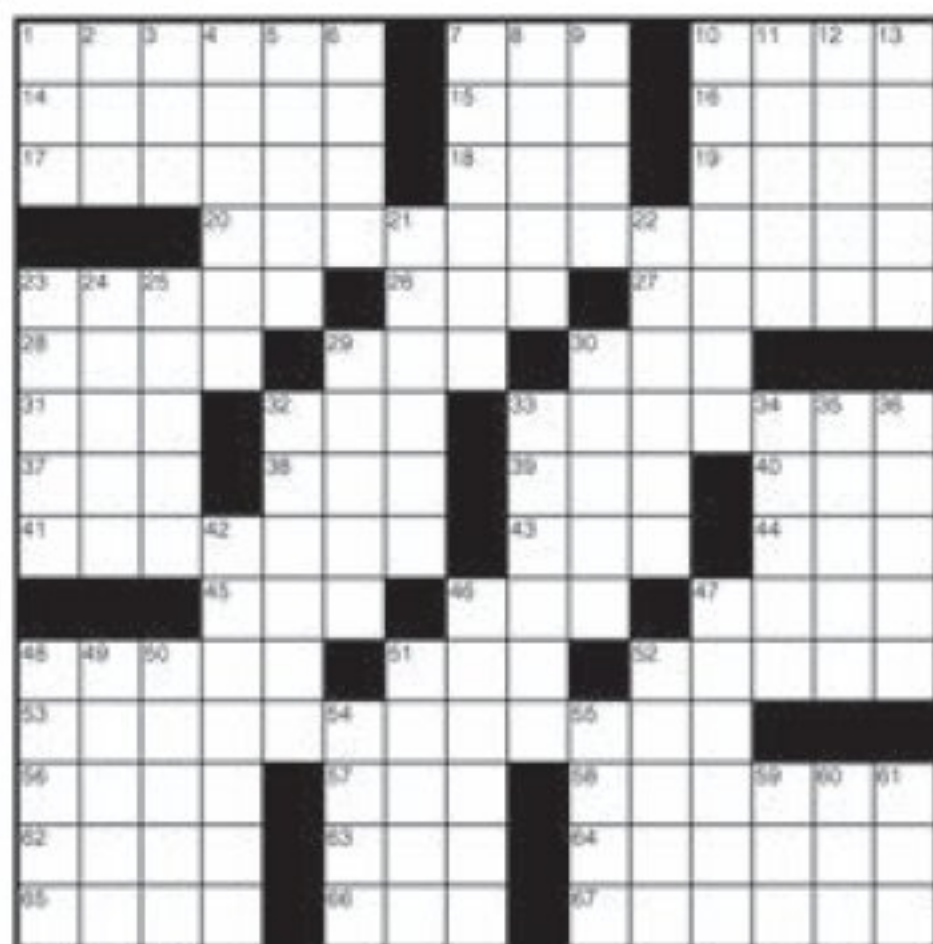
			2	4			3	8
6				5		9		
2			9				4	
8		1					6	7
	2						8	
4	5					3		9
	8				9			4
		5		1				2
7	6			8	4			

						3	6	
	2							8
8		6	9	7	2			
		5		9	1		3	
	6		2		7		9	
	1		6	8		7		
			1	4	9	5		3
4							8	
	5	3						

## How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Crossword



## Across

- 1 Stunned, with "over"
- 7 Happy shout
- 10 Tattered
- 14 Colorful percher
- 15 Absent-minded murmur
- 16 Low-fat spread
- 17 Fancy
- 18 NASA counterpart
- 19 El — (ocean current)
- 20 Blue wildflowers (hyph.)
- 23 Expand
- 26 Gore and Capone
- 27 Not trendy
- 28 Bouquet
- 29 Road "beetles"
- 30 Marshy place
- 31 Ullmann of cinema
- 32 Food steamer
- 33 Left the union
- 37 Catwoman, to Batman
- 38 Dazzle
- 39 Villain's laugh
- 40 Caviar, actually
- 41 Like a zebra
- 43 Classified items

## Down

- 1 — and hiss
- 2 Bobby of the NHL
- 44 Betrayer
- 45 None at all
- 46 DJ's supply
- 47 Stick around
- 48 F. — Fitzgerald
- 51 Stickum
- 52 Turned toward
- 53 Celt halter, hopefully (2 wds.)
- 56 Pakistan's language
- 57 Web suffix
- 58 Damaged by hail
- 62 Raced
- 63 Med. plan
- 64 Drove a volleyball
- 65 This place
- 66 Lubber's aye
- 67 Squire around
- 3 End up ahead
- 4 Casual shoe
- 5 Singer — John
- 6 Venison
- 7 Potters' needs
- 8 Expels
- 9 "Kapow!"
- 10 Freight capacity
- 11 Hodgepodes
- 12 Finds a tenant
- 13 Rope's slipknot
- 21 Stared
- 22 Time periods
- 23 Gorges, maybe
- 24 — box
- 25 White cliffs town
- 29 I or U
- 30 Droplets
- 32 Elk
- 33 Eclipse phenomenon
- 34 Greek column type
- 35 Steer clear of
- 36 Asked out
- 42 Trespass
- 46 Universe
- 47 Sweden's sea

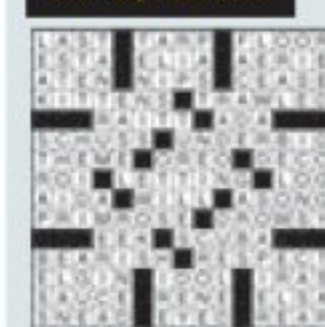


Visit us online at **Metro.us**.

Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.



## Dec. 24's answer



- 48 "Be quiet!"
- 49 "— diem!"
- 50 More weird
- 51 Dwarf cousin
- 52 Goes wild over
- 54 "— Breaky Heart"
- 55 Church part
- 59 Tyson stat
- 60 Always, to Byron
- 61 Banned bug spray



# Top sports stories of 2014

This was the rare year in recent Boston history where no major pro team brought home championship hardware.

JAMES TOSCANO  
sports@metro.us

## The Lester saga

The Red Sox are usually active at the MLB Trade Deadline, but not as the sellers. They were sellers this year, though, as the awful Sox traded their ace Jon Lester, bringing back Yoenis Cespedes in return. It was a risky move, but there were plenty of people optimistic that Lester would re-sign with the Sox in the offseason, and he didn't say anything to make them think otherwise. . . . Oops. Jon Lester is now a Cub. After what felt like an eternity, Lester finally came to grips with the fact Red Sox ownership didn't want him enough.



JON LESTER TALK DOMINATED THE BOSTON SPORTS SCENE FOR NEARLY 12 MONTHS.  
GETTY IMAGES



## Boston Marathon

In a city dominated by sports, the Marathon Monday is always the most celebrated day of the year – and rightfully so. This year was even more special, as it marked the first Marathon since the tragic 2013 bombings. Meb Keflezighi became the first American man to win the race since 1983.

## Rondo traded

After years of speculation regarding Rajon Rondo's future, Celtics boss Danny Ainge finally traded the Celtics enigmatic point guard. Rondo, who won a championship with the Celtics in just his second year in the league, was the only remaining player from the 2008 championship team. A torn ACL suffered in the 2012-13 season set him back some, and also prevented Ainge from trading him sooner. With Rondo set to hit free agency at the end of this season, and the Celtics clearly uncertain about re-signing him, they pulled the trigger on a deal that brought them back three role players, a first-round pick (likely in 2016) and a second round pick.



Rajon Rondo was dealt on Dec. 18. / GETTY IMAGES

# 3

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## Top stories of 2014

## Patriots still seeking ring No. 4

The Patriots have locked up the No. 1 seed in the AFC playoffs for 2014 and, maybe, just maybe, this is the season where Tom Brady and Bill Belichick capture that elusive fourth Super Bowl ring. But that will have to wait for 2015. Plenty of twists and turns went down in Foxboro this past year. A look at the ups and downs:

## 4 Patriots smoked by Chiefs

"Brady's done!" ... "Start Garoppolo!" ... "The Pats should trade Brady and get something while they still can!" Hmmm ... that quieted down real fast. The talk of

Brady's demise has turned into talk of him potentially being the MVP this season. Yes, the Pats looked awful after Week 4's 41-14 shellacking at the hands of the Chiefs. New England simply got punked on a national stage. Panic set in across New England – but not inside the Gillette Stadium doors. The offensive line toughened up, Brandon LaFell emerged, and Rob Gronkowski got healthy. The Pats ripped off seven straight wins and are the No. 1 seed heading into the postseason. Hi haters!

## 5 Patriots lose AFC title game

After beating up on the Colts in the AFC divisional round, the Patriots ended up



Tom Brady quickly halted any 'quarterback competition' talk beginning on Oct. 5 when the Patriots clobbered the Bengals. / GETTY IMAGES

having to go where all fans were hoping they wouldn't have to go: Denver. And watching the game, it was pretty clear why fans were so nervous. The Broncos simply looked like the better team, putting great pressure on Brady and preventing the offense from getting anything going. On defense, then Patriots corner Aqib Talib got injured during the game – and Peyton Manning took advantage. The Broncos went to the Super Bowl – and proceeded to get shredded by the Seahawks. The Patriots knew they had to improve their defense (see below).

## 6 Patriots load up on 'D'

Once in a while a free

agent comes along that just blows you out of the water upon hearing the news of his signing. Darrelle Revis was that free agent this season. You can probably remember where you were and what you were doing when you heard the Pats were signing the All-Pro corner. It was that huge – and he's certainly lived up to the hype this season. What made the signing even better was that it came right after Talib signed with the Broncos. We'll take that trade any day. Better yet – the Pats weren't done in free agency. They went and signed Brandon Browner – a big, physical corner, days later. No more picking on the Patriots secondary. JAMES TOSCANO

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## Top 10 of 2014. Bruins fall to Montreal, the Celtics land the No. 6 pick in draft

The Bruins were seen as underachievers in 2014 while the Celtics did a little too much winning for some fans' liking. The Red Sox came out swinging this offseason by signing some big name free agents. A look at 7-10 on our best of 2014 list:

## 7 Habs eliminate Bruins

This one hurt on May 14. The Bruins finished the season with the best record in the NHL. They were clicking on all cylinders and were about as healthy as a hockey team could be in May. Then in the second round those

freakin' Canadiens came to town and out-skated Boston in seven games. The B's

tough-guy game was a bad match for the speedy Habs, and they once again got the best of Boston. It's time to close the borders.

## 8 Hanley/Pablo signings

To anybody who followed the Red Sox this year: Our apologies. Unless, that is, you're a fan of those 1-0 losses. No? We didn't think so. The Red Sox needed more than a few things over the offseason. One of those was a No. 1 pitcher (TBD). But they also needed some bats, particularly a left-handed bat and a third basemen. They got one in Pablo Sandoval, who signed with the Sox for five years and \$95 million, with a club option for the sixth year. On the VERY SAME DAY in late November, they came to terms with Hanley Ramirez on a four-year, \$88 million deal, with a fifth-

year vesting option. Random, right? It turns out Ramirez pretty much called them and said he wanted to play for Boston. But the Sox had a shortstop and a third baseman, so Ramirez agreed to play left field. Yoenis Cespedes, we barely knew ya (traded to Detroit for Rick Porcello).

## 9 Celtics land the sixth pick

Celtics fans suffered through a pretty rough 2013-14 season, with hopes that they would be rewarded with one of the top picks in the

## No. 10

Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett return to Boston to face the Celtics.

- A real tearjerker, this night was on Jan. 26. Not just for the fans watching in the arena and at home on their televisions (or at the bar, crying into their beers), but for both Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce. The Celtics are a great organization and know how to treat their players, past or present. Both stars got their own video tribute and long standing ovations. Both were very emotional during the game and even after the game in their post-game press conferences. It was obviously a tough trade for Ainge to make, but ultimately the right one, as Boston will prosper from those Nets picks for years to come. Trust us, the Nets would take that deal back in a heartbeat.

NBA Draft. Everybody's eyes were set on Andrew Wiggins, Jabari Parker, and Joel Embiid. Well, wouldn't you know it – on May 20, the Celtics ended up with the No. 6 pick. Shucks. And to make matters worse, the Cavs got the top pick (eventually allowing them to trade Andrew Wiggins to Minnesota). The lottery just hasn't been kind to the C's. They took Marcus Smart with the pick, and it's still to be determined how that will work out. JAMES TOSCANO



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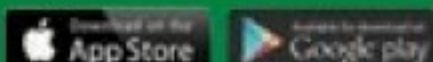
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60% OFF**  
COATS  
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From designers  
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Also excludes: Everyday Values (EDV), Doorbusters, Deals of the Day, furniture, mattresses, floor coverings,  
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